

Serial No. 09/453,480

which draws the stock material from the stock supply and converts the stock material into a strip of cushioning, wherein the stock supply assembly includes a damper member at an upstream end of the machine over which the multi-ply stock material is trained, first and second constant entry guides disposed between the damper member and the conversion assembly for passage of first and second respective plies of the multi-ply stock material thereover, wherein the damper member and the first and second constant entry guides define first and second paths which the first and second plies follow before passing over the respective first and second constant entry guides, and a plurality of separators between the constant entry guides and the conversion assembly between or around which the plies pass before passage to the conversion assembly.

8. (Amended) A method of converting multi-ply sheet stock material into a cushioning dunnage, comprising drawing the stock material from a stock supply and converting the stock material into a strip of cushioning, wherein at least two plies of the stock material are guided along different paths and passed over respective different constant entry rollers upstream of conversion components that convert the stock material into a strip of cushioning, and wherein the plies pass between or around a plurality of separators between the constant entry guides and the conversion components.

9. (Amended) A conversion method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the multi-ply stock material is passed over a biased damper before passage to the constant entry guides.

*Please cancel claims 2, 3 and 10.*